

1. (Twice amended) An absorbent article comprising a fluid-permeable overwrap containing a plurality of tablets of compressed, fibrous, absorbent material, the tablets having a bulk density within about 20% of the bulk density of a system formed of the absorbent material at its maximum volume capacity.

20. (Twice amended) An absorbent article comprising a liquid-permeable bag in the form of a tampon for intravaginal use containing a plurality of tablets of compressed, fibrous, absorbent material, said tablets having a bulk density of at least about 0.5 g/cm³.

27. (Twice amended) A method of claim 26, wherein the absorbent material is compressed to form tablets having a predetermined bulk density within 20% of the bulk density of a system formed of the absorbent material at its maximum volume capacity.

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-36 were originally filed in the present application. All are currently pending. Claims 1-22 and 26-36 stand rejected under various rejections. Claims 23-25 stand objected to, and Claims 2, 3, 7, 9-12, 17, and 18 would be allowable if rewritten to include the limitations of the claims from which they depend and if the 112 rejections are overcome. As outlined above, Claims 1 and 27 have been amended. Therefore, Claims 1-36 remain pending in this application.

The amended claims are fully supported in the specification as originally filed. In particular, the newly added language in Claims 1 and 27 is disclosed at page 6, lines 14-28.

Rejections

Claims 1-19 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.